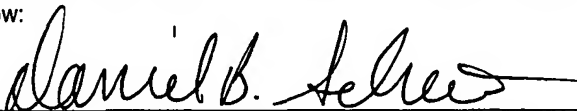


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below:



Daniel B. Schein, Ph.D., Esq., Reg. No. 33,551

11-28-01

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 11168-3

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

CLARK et al

Serial No.: 09/930,896

Filing Date: August 15, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR REDUCING  
TENSION VARIATIONS IN A  
METAL STRIP

Examiner: To be assigned

Group Art Unit No.: 3725

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

11-28-01  
Date

Daniel B. Schein  
Daniel B. Schein, Ph.D., Esq.  
Registration No. 33,551  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 09/930,896	CASE NO. 11168-3
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE August 15, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT 3725
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): Clark et al.	

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4,905,491	3/6/1990	Starke et al.		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	A2	GB 2074138A	10/28/1981	United Kingdom			

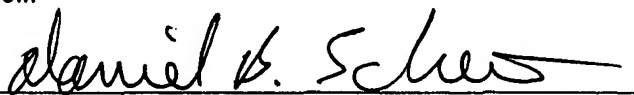
EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	A3	N/A

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below:



Daniel B. Schein, Ph.D., Esq., Reg. No. 33,551

20 February 2002

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 11168-3

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

CLARK et al.

Serial No.: 09/930,896

Filing Date: August 15, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR REDUCING  
TENSION VARIATIONS IN A  
METAL STRIP

Examiner: To be assigned

Group Art Unit No.: 3725

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Two patent abstracts submitted with this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement correspond to patent documents previously submitted, specifically U.S. Patent 4,905,491 and GB Patent 2,074,138. The two excerpts from a May 9, 1995 "Acesita" proposal document are not believed to be prior art, as applicants believe that they have not been published, and are also subject to non-disclosure terms. Thus, these latter documents are submitted merely in an abundance of caution.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

20 February 2002  
Date

Daniel B. Schein  
Daniel B. Schein, Ph.D., Esq.  
Registration No. 33,551  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 09/930,896	CASE NO. 11168-3
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE August 15, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT 3725
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): Clark et al.	

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A3	4,391,417	7/5/1983	Gronbech		
	A4	4,905,491 (abstract)	3/6/1990	Starke et al.		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	A5	GB 2,074,138 A (abstract)	10/28/1981	United Kingdom			
	A6	WO 99/55474	4/20/1999	PCT			
	A7	DE19818207 (abstract)	10/28/1999	Germany			

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	A8	Acesita Steckel Modifications Hot Strip Rolling Mill Project Evaluation Design Philosophy, Part 3, Section 3.2 of May 9, 1995 Proposal, Pages 1 -14.
	A9	Acesita Steckel Modifications Hot Strip Rolling Mill Automation Functional Description, Part 7, Section 3 of May 9, 1995 Proposal, Pages 1 - 60.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.